(51)

[redacted] Letter No. 1

1.3(a)(4)

11 October 1960

1. COMPASS arrived in city 1 October from Helsinki and settled into America House in corner room across from cement factory with large window facing on corner. Will be here three or four months. My intermediary returned only last night at 1800 from a trip so have been unable to write. He left on an internal trip 4 or 5 October. This will be short for it is being written at lunch hour at America House and that gives me protection since I'll ride back with a group. If I can't get it to my intermediary, I'll have to destroy it for I have no safe-keeping facilities. My Mobility is good but [redacted]

2. Surveillance coverage so far noted is light. I've made no checks for it but even then it is obvious. October 9 made tour from America House to church with a friend to church on bus. Returned in car with 1 military man and he said we have two cars on us. From house went to plumbing supply store behind Ukraine Hotel and spotted no coverage, but it was an easy area for discreet coverage. Went into Ukraina to buy guide book and map and then walked to Embassy, Chaikovsky and down Gorkiy. Crowded sidewalks and spotted only one man who entered bookstore with me. Bookstore was mobbed so went to GUM where impossible to detect coverage. Walked to Kremlin, mausoleum closed, and on into St. Basil's. One young man--25, 26--and two older ones--35-40--on my tail and close. From St. Basils down to Naberezhnaya along river and I'm positive man at end of street at wall along river was my friend covering me for the three in St. Basils. I made no attempt at any time to look behind me.

3. Reaching the large heated swimming pool in a park on the same road along the river to America House, I strolled in, and there were two new ones, undoubtedly on me. Not my imagination, and there were no repeats spotted in any of my coverage.

4. Back to the river border and on to America House where I strolled around the side along the House to the swimming pool in back, through there checking the hours it was open and I spotted four or five possible "friends" and one positive as I strolled down the block across from the bridge and the bus stop. The positive was a girl about 25 strolling ahead of me who foolishly turned about half way down the block to gesture twice to whoever was behind me that they should hold off. She then crossed the street to go under the bridge and make sure from there that I returned to America House. Lord, how they communicate I don't know but the area is simple to cover.

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
31 MAR 1992

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5. I'm sure they have coverage from the building facing down over the [redacted] but it doesn't cover the corner wall we discussed for GRUNION. I have official day-time access--can't detail now--and can have official evening access to back yard storeroom but I can't carry my ambition as building superintendent too far. Inside wall is dog patrol with 6-month old pup. I'm getting very well acquainted with him as and at [redacted]

6. The wall itself is about 14 feet high and minimum 3 feet long to have a package come into America House compound. However, Soviet have jumped over that wall and--no details--all four sides of the House seem to have tight coverage. On the way in today, I made two, one on each street--bus stop side and cement factory side. The militia, of course, gives us complete front of building service.

7. It's almost possible, in my present estimate, and unless I "cool off" by my routine, rather heavily scheduled routine pattern all our buildings--five in all--that GRUNION sending a package over the wall will be a one-time thing. He'll have had it at night. If he condemns his own judgment during the day--No. 17 bus passes right by front from the cement factory and foot traffic is heavy including military in uniform--it is probably as deadly. Sorry, we'll have to wait until I can give more specific information on my 'cooling off.'

8. Please give my intermediary instructions that he has got to get in to me regularly and I will hand him a blank envelope, which, unless otherwise specified, goes directly to you.

9. Didn't dare go down side streets as desired for GRUNION, since, as it turned out I'm the "hottest" thing in town.

10. I may repeat some of this but I'll write another letter as soon as I know I can get it to my intermediary without a delay.

COMPASS

NO COPY RETAINED. GOT TO KEEP IT IN MY HEAD. (OHHH!)

[redacted] 1 Copy - [redacted] 1.3(a)(4)

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